

Aleksandr Kovalev

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Location: Amsterdam Area, the Netherlands

I'm a software engineer with 10 years of professional experience. I've worked with a variety of languages and development stacks, mostly on the backend — distributed systems, databases, APIs, data pipelines, and more.

Most recently, I took a career break to focus on Rust (see my open-source project below) and to pick up some new hobbies: I learned SCUBA diving and freediving, got back into chess, and joined a local badminton team. With these side quests complete, I'm now looking for my next role.

Open Source

2023-now

Hypersynthetic – *HTML templating library in Rust*

<https://github.com/sanchopanca/hypersynthetic>

Experience

JUNE 2021 - APRIL 2023

Booking.com, Amsterdam, the Netherlands – *Senior Software Engineer*

- Led the development of the Hotel Availability Search Service, including the creation of a metadata cluster to enhance hotel metadata retrieval for search, resulting in faster update propagation
- Led a cross-functional team responsible for integrating a transport-related product into the unified reservation system
- Orchestrated seamless communication and collaboration between the development team and the product team, ensuring successful integration
- Keywords: Java, MySQL, RocksDB, Kafka, Protobuf, Cassandra, Terraform, AWS, Go, SpringBoot

NOVEMBER 2016 - MAY 2021

Booking.com, Amsterdam, the Netherlands – *Software Developer*

- Led the development of Connectivity APIs, facilitating efficient inventory and reservation management for public partners.
- Redesigned the policy system and orchestrated the seamless migration from the previous system, resulting in a more streamlined, scalable solution. This transformation enabled the integration of additional policies, breaking through capacity constraints that hindered the previous system's growth.
- Keywords: Perl, Python, XML, REST API, MySQL, Kubernetes, Grafana

NOVEMBER 2014 - OCTOBER 2016

SADAD Electronic Payment Systems, Manama, Bahrain – *Software Engineer*

- Engineered backend solutions for payment gateways and developed a user-friendly Web UI for Customer Support.
- Successfully designed and launched an Android application for POS-devices, paving the way for new market opportunities and potential business growth
- Transferred Python code to C++ for specialized hardware compatibility.
- Keywords: Python, Java, Javascript, Linux, Docker, Android, MS SQL, Flask, SQLAlchemy, PostgreSQL, Tesseract, OCR, Redis, Angular, API Integration

JANUARY 2014 - NOVEMBER 2014

Rotek, Saratov, Russia – *Software Engineer*

- Developed the backend of a smart home system, as well as the embedded application, running on the end-user devices.
- Collaborated on the integration of wireless sensors and video monitoring.
- Keywords: Python, Linux, RabbitMQ, MySQL, TCP, wireless sensors, video monitoring

FEBRUARY 2012 - APRIL 2013

Mirantis, Saratov, Russia – *Software Engineering Intern*

- Contributed to the development of Google Cloud compatibility layer for OpenStack.k
- Contributed to bare metal provisioning in OpenStack, streamlining infrastructure deployment.
- Keywords: Python, SQLAlchemy, Linux, REST, OpenStack

Education

2008 - 2013

Saratov State University, Saratov, Russia – *Master's degree in Mathematics and Computer Science*

2013 - 2014

Saratov State Technical University, Saratov, Russia – *Graduate Student in Mathematics*